



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kelan C. Silvester § Group Art Unit: 2645
Serial No.: 09/189,250 §
Filed: November 10, 1998 § Examiner: A. Hoosain
For: Message Handling System § Atty. Dkt. No.: INTL-0154-US

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 20, 2001

Sir:

In response to the final office action mailed on July 20, 2001, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

Remarks

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful consideration of Applicant's claims and for his diligent search. In response thereto, Applicant makes the following remarks:

Claim 26-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pepe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,905) in view of Greco et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,568,540).

Applicant's independent claims 26, 32 and 37 include the limitations "converting said portion to text," "convert said portion to text" and "convert said portion to text," respectively. These limitations are not disclosed in the Pepe et al. reference.

The Examiner has directed the Applicant's attention to column 19, lines 43-44 for the proposition that Pepe et al. converts a portion of a telephonic message to text. Applicant respectfully disagrees. That section of the Pepe et al. reference does not disclose converting a voice mail or a portion of a voice mail into text. Furthermore, Applicant has found no reference within Pepe et al. that teaches taking a portion of a voice mail and converting that portion to text as is required in Applicant's independent claims. Nowhere are these limitations taught by the Greco et al. reference. Therefore, Applicant believes that the rejection of Applicant's

Date of Deposit: 8/28/01

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231.

Lisa O'Sullivan

independent claims 26, 32 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is improper and respectfully requests the withdrawal of same.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant believes the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the Examiner pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/26/01


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